

As a concerned T-Mobile USA customer, I'd just like to state some reasons why I chose T-Mobile as a carrier over the other options available to me.

- 1) Nationwide service is important to me when I decide to travel. T-Mobile's coverage is quite adequate for my family's uses with roaming needed occasionally when traveling (usually provided by AT&T and included within my plan).
- 2) Speed of the service is very adequate with T-Mobile's HSPA+ roadmap looking competitive to that of the LTE and WiMAX offerings. I feel no need to have a path to LTE.
- 3) GSM technology provides me the flexibility of swapping phones without needing to activate the phone through the carrier.
- 4) Customer service has been highly ranked for many years and my personal experiences with them have been only positive.
- 5) T-Mobile's support of the Android operating system and openness in its Android offerings (contrasted with AT&T's offerings which are locked down and prevent side-loading of apps) is truly refreshing to me as a consumer and user of Android smartphones.
- 6) Pricing is very competitive, and T-Mobile is the only nationwide carrier I have seen to offer post-paid plans for families without subsidized phone contract plans. This is by far the most important piece of T-Mobile's offerings that swayed me to choose them over the others. I currently have a family plan consisting of three lines with 750 minutes (of which our use is barely more than half of that), unlimited texting, and unlimited data (throttled after 4 GB of use) for smartphones for ~\$115 a month. This is just unheard of. Similar offerings from the other three national carriers are closer to \$200 than \$150 per month, let alone \$115 per month. This is also the piece that most worries me about an AT&T acquisition. I understand they would need to honor contracts post-acquisition, but my family plan is an off-contract plan. I'm concerned about my rates going up ~\$60/month.

From a wider perspective, I'd only ask that serious considerations are made of the implications of the merger from a jobs perspective. With the billions of dollars AT&T would invest in T-Mobile USA through this buyout, money could instead be invested in America's economy by creating jobs in building their LTE network themselves and refarming some of their own unused spectrum across the country. From what I've heard, they have spectrum, just nothing unified throughout their entire coverage footprint. Why not permit AT&T to trade spectrum with other carriers? If AT&T does not own enough spectrum and truly is "crunched" for spectrum, why didn't they bid on more spectrum when they had the chance? Rather, AT&T chose to sit it out, ignoring their "impending spectrum exhaustion" issue until the time was ripe to pluck T-Mobile's spectrum. The purchase of T-Mobile for its network infrastructure and the consequential, and inevitable, axing of jobs due to consolidation does not seem like a win for America's future. Rather, it stinks of AT&T's corporate laziness in throwing money at problems rather than putting effort into fixing them. This deal will be a win for AT&T corporate and a loss for America.

On the other hand, if AT&T is denied the purchase of T-Mobile, I'd read that T-Mobile would receive some cash as a "severance package" of sorts as well as roaming agreements. This seems much more favorable to consumers as it would continue to support GSM competition here, infrastructure improvements would continue to be made by both companies in their networks, and roaming agreements would allow carriers to more directly compete in more areas which should drive prices down for consumers as well.

Lastly, consider the implications of 80% of American cell phone subscribers having service on one of two national networks as it affects manufacturers and phone selection available to subscribers on smaller networks. Might the incentives for supplying phones to Sprint be less now that the potential sales of a few devices on two carriers are much larger? Also, how would the removal of the only AWS carrier in America affect other global AWS carriers from a phone selection standpoint? Some of Canada's carriers have T-Mobile USA to thank for some of their phone selection due to T-Mobile's large market presence here (despite their #4 market placement). Might this negatively affect competition in other countries driving global phone prices up?

Personally, I am against this merger, and I hope I've done a good job of outlining my reasons.